

The new Green Impact for Health website has launched!



The [NEW Green Impact web platform](#) 2023 is live!



There is a [user guide here](#) with the steps to register and access the actions.

The OLD web platform 2013-2022 is still at <https://www.greenimpact.org.uk/GIforHealth>.

There is [detailed explanation with FAQs](#) about the Green Impact for Health toolkit and new toolkit if you need help.

The content of the 2023 toolkit has not changed but the new web platform is much improved and more user-friendly. There is a switchover period for the website from the old platform to the new platform however we encourage you to register your practice on the new toolkit as soon as you are able to. There are new instructions about how to use the new toolkit in this [short video](#) which is also on the new website. If you have any issues, please report this to giforhealth@sos-uk.org.

For existing users on the OLD web platform:

- You will need to re-register yourself and your practice team on the new toolkit:
 - Click register at the bottom of the log-in box, and fill in your details.
 - You will then receive a verification email - you must activate your account to access the toolkit. This has replaced the registration code.
 - Once you verify your account you will be able to create or join a practice team. Check to see if your team is already there, otherwise the *first person* to register from each team will need to create it. Subsequent members will see your team and be able to join upon registration. **Please include the town in your practice team name to avoid confusion.**

- You will then have access to the toolkit and begin working towards your next Green Impact award!
- The deadline for new information entries and submission to receive an award by the current 'quick' assessment on the old platform has been extended from end of January, until 28th February 2023.
- From 1st February 2023 we are returning to cyclical student-led audits. You can submit at any time, however audits will be completed in Autumn 2023. This supports SOS's improved monitoring and evaluation process to capture impact, and the social value of working with students.
- Existing entries on the old platform ***cannot be transferred automatically*** to the new web platform. You can simply copy and paste any already completed actions from the old website into the new website or download all your information from the toolkit as a spreadsheet then copy from this.

For new users:

- The current/old website is closed for new registrations, but [registration on the new toolkit is now open!](#)

The RCGP's new carbon reduction programme includes:

New On-Line Learning '[Understanding non-clinical carbon and general practice](#)' and New RCGP Net Zero advisors.

RCGP's Primary Care Development team has been working with Greener NHS to develop this new support offer, assisting general practices in England to assess their carbon footprint and prepare an action plan to reduce their environmental impact. The service will launch in April 2023. In preparation for this RCGP is training a cohort of individuals to become the programme's first RCGP Net Zero Advisers who will be a part of the delivery team for this new programme. Each advisor will have training to

- write a carbon reduction pledge for a practice
- measure a practice's carbon emissions
- identify their emission hotspots
- rank and prioritise their emissions by size and impact
- identify actions that can be taken within each area to reduce their emissions
- identify useful resources and/or partners to aid emission reduction actions
- develop a plan to reduce their carbon emissions aligned with the NHS Net Zero strategy.

[BJGP Life Articles in 2022](#)

BJGP Life will publish your opinion pieces and book reviews relating to planetary health and greening general practice. Please consider writing and submitting an opinion piece or book review to <https://bjgplife.com/contribute/>

Here is what they published in 2022 up to now

January 2022 [The dangers to health when we live in a bubble](#)

February [Building new and faster ways to achieve sustainable healthcare GPs must talk about climate breakdown](#)

April [The 'inverse climate law': a call for health equity and climate justice](#)

[The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and primary care - our final warning](#)

May [Soil Extinction, Climate Crisis and Population Health](#)

[Book review : The five health frontiers, a new radical blueprint](#)

October [Greener Practice's 5th Birthday](#)

January 2023

[How to be a triple bottom line practice working for profit, the people and the planet](#)

[A small step towards greener general practice](#)

BMJ and sustainable healthcare articles – can you contribute?

Florence Wedmore (fwedmore@bmj.com) is working at the BMJ as a sustainability fellow (on the Greener NHS's CSO's clinical fellowship scheme). She is working with their education team to commission a collection of bitesize actions that people can take immediately to practice sustainable healthcare: either changes to their individual practice or QI projects.

The format for these will be 400-700 words total with 3 sections:

Why Change is Needed

Outline a very brief case for changing current practice.

You then may want to specify the current impacts of current practice in terms of:

- *Patient harms*
- *Financial costs*
- *Environmental harms*
- *Any other harms: e.g., impact on staff time, other societal impacts*

If these harms are theoretical then please state that, if not briefly link to the evidence

Evidence for the solution

Outline the type of studies that have led you to propose the solutions below. This could range from RCTs, to single-centre quality improvement projects. If there is not yet an evidence base to support your proposed solutions, then please state that.

This section could also include reference to guidelines that support your solution

What you can do

This section should aim to be as practical as possible. Think about the audience that would be able to pick up this idea and what information would help them to put it into practice. Also consider different levels of change, from individual behaviour to system change. Please link this section with the above section to make sure that readers are overall clear on the level of evidence behind your proposed solutions.

She would like hear lots of people's ideas, and if you'd be interested and available to write them. There will be a formal commissioning process (COIs etc), but it would be great to know availability and ideas to get the ball rolling.

If you've got thoughts or questions (about this or anything else the BMJ could be covering) just let her know. She is always keen to connect to more green health people.

[The UK Green Surgery Project.](#)

Do you know have any case studies for developing sustainable surgical practices, to inform the Green Surgery report, due to be published in December 2023?

For more information about a suitable case study for the Green Surgery Report. Click [\[HERE\]](#). The deadline for submission is 28th February 2023.

There is also an accompanying email template on the Green Surgery web page [\[HERE\]](#) explaining the project/report and reason for collecting the case studies. All case studies submitted on the proforma will be reviewed. Some case studies might feature in the Green Surgery report.

Here is the full Green Surgery website address: <https://ukhealthalliance.org/sustainable-healthcare/green-surgery-project/>.

Food and greenhouse gas emissions.

Food production accounts for one-quarter of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and takes up half of the planet's habitable surface. Meat and dairy account for around 14.5% of global greenhouse gas emissions, according to the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization ([FAO](#)).

Carbon brief shows how emissions from meat, dairy and other foods [compare](#). See [#carboncost](#) on twitter for similar information.

Doctor for Extinction Rebellion

DXR have put together a short series of health-related Climate talks

- <https://www.doctorsforxr.com/join-us>

♡ A series of talks in Feb/March as follows:

8 February - Duties of a doctor and the Climate Crisis

20 March - Sustainable Healthcare ♡

UK Health Alliance on Climate Change

UKHACC has a [new website](#) and end of year 2022 report. All the old blogs and resources back to 2021 will be gradually added to the new website

There is a network of organisations involved with UKHACC that includes



UKHACC In Conversation Lunchtime Sessions

Recording of the past sessions are available [here](#)

The December session on health action on sustainable diets is available [here](#). During the session, the panel presented on what a sustainable diet means, recommendations for health organisations to be advocates, resources and opportunities, and a case study from Kings College Hospital.

The January session on Progress towards a net zero health service in the UK is available [here](#). The panel includes Sir Frank Atherton, CMO Wales; Professor Sir Gregor Smith, CMO Scotland; Dr Nick Watts, Greener NHS England. [Register here](#).

Upcoming lunchtime sessions are listed below.

Education for sustainable healthcare

15 February 2023, 12.00-13.30

The Medical Schools Council has published a curriculum for the UK on [Education for Sustainable Healthcare](#). In this lunchtime session, we will discuss the challenges and opportunities for ensuring the new curriculum becomes a standard component of medical education, and how it can be adapted and expanded to other areas of practice and postgraduate training. [Register here](#).

The path to climate-smart, net-zero emissions health care: A grand rounds series.

Presented by Health Care Without Harm in partnership with the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education, this [virtual grand rounds series](#) explores strategies to reduce health care emissions and features the leadership of climate-smart clinicians and researchers.

You can view summaries and recordings of these sessions to learn about:

- Strategies to achieve net-zero health care emissions
- Opportunities to bring climate-smart health care to the bedside
- Emerging research that supports health care decarbonization

Climate-smart pharmacy: A prescription for a healthier planet

16th February 2023 11 a.m. ET

In this session, two pharmacists and a physician will discuss the climate impact of pharmaceuticals, including metered dose inhalers, along with opportunities for health professionals to promote climate-smart pharmacy practice through education, advocacy, and clinical practice.

Participants will learn about:

- Why pharmaceuticals make a significant contribution to health care's climate footprint
- How pharmacists and clinical health professionals are leading action to reduce the impact of inhalers and other pharmaceuticals and promote climate-smart health care
- Opportunities to reduce pharmaceutical emissions by reducing unnecessary pharmaceutical use, reducing pharmaceutical waste, and evaluating prescribing practices

Greener Practice North East have Dr Georgie Sowman and Dr Richard Hixson giving their excellent talk on Healthcare Ocean. They explain why it is vital that our oceans are considered foremost when looking at climate change and sustainability, and must be part of the solution in any human healthcare strategies.

This will be on **Thursday 2nd March at 7.30pm via Zoom**, with questions and discussion afterwards. All welcome.

Topic: Healthcare Oceans Talk

Time: Mar 2, 2023 07:30 PM Newcastle

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83206213455>

Meeting ID: 832 0621 3455

Carbon Footprint and Cost Model tool for inhalers

GSK is launching a Carbon Footprint and Cost Model tool that can be applied at the Health Board, ICS, PCN or practice level that shows the carbon footprint and costs over 12 months of your prescribing and how much you could reduce your carbon footprint and costs by switching to alternatives. There will be more details next month about who to contact at GSK to get this information. Using this tool satisfies many inhaler prescribing criteria in the GIFH toolkit (PRS001 and PRS003), supports asking your Health Board or ICS to switch to less polluting inhalers (PRS005), and can provide evidence of your changed prescribing (PRS009, PRS010 and PRS011).

An introductory guide for GP trainees to planetary health

is on the Bradford VTS website

<https://www.bradfordvts.co.uk/ethics/planetary-health/>

An MSc in Climate Change & Planetary Health at London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). More info at <https://www.studyinternational.com/news/launch-your-planetary-health-career-at-the-london-school-of-hygiene-tropical-medicine/>

Greener NHS are keen to identify, share, and celebrate some of the best stories of greener health and care from across the NHS.

If you are involved in, an exciting programme or project that is helping the NHS to reach its net zero target, and think others could benefit from finding out more, please get in touch with them: greener.nhs@nhs.net.

The UN biodiversity summit, known as COP15

Almost 200 countries [have agreed](#) to a new set of goals and targets to “halt and reverse” biodiversity loss by the end of the decade.

The landmark deal was reached after two weeks of talks in Montreal at the UN biodiversity summit, known as COP15.

Carbon Brief [summarises the agreements](#)

United for Nature

The Zero Hour Alliance has launched the [United for Nature petition](#) to urge the UK government to set legally binding targets to reverse biodiversity loss by 2030. Please show your support by adding your support.

Are you a member of Medical Protection Society?

Will you support a divestment from fossil fuels campaign?

Some GPs have been campaigning for some time to get the MPS to divest from fossil fuels. They have divested from coal but resistant on oil & gas. There is support from MedAct and Doctors for XR but they want to go big with this because they need 250 wet member signatures to get a motion onto the MPS AGM for which they have designed a sign-up form here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdtqDVjrYriXKfto4U8al6wGyHLJ3KWubEVy-nmwNM3hK9vSA/viewform>

Funding the Green Impact Scheme for 2023.

RCGP has agreed to fund the toolkit at SOS-UK until December 2025. We still need additional funds for development so please contribute a minimum £10 each year. A big thank you to everyone who has contributed so far.

Please donate to SOS-UK via our [charity PayPal account](#). Choose the Green Impact option. It will take you less than a minute to make your donation today!

All past newsletters from October 2020 are [HERE](#).

For more information or help, please contact:

e. giforhealth@sos-uk.org or Greenimpactforhealth@gmail.com

To keep up to date with SOS-UK's programme and campaign news, [click here](#) to sign up to our newsletter.

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